District No. 30, Joseph E. Kennedy Sr., 2021 Boulevard Ave.

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Sheridan Going To Federal Court

Attorneys for a television newsman accused of attempting to bribe a witness in DA Jim Garrison's assassination investigation took their fight to federal court today.

The Louisiana State Supreme Court ruled yesterday that Walter Sheridan, a reporter for the National Broadcasting Co., must testify before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, saying that the newsman's claim of harassment by Garrison is not sufficient "to warrant the exercise of our supervisory jurisdiction at this time."

MILTON BRENER, an attorney for Sheridan, said today he would file pleadings in federal district court today on behalf of his client. Asked whether he would go all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary in an attempt to thwart Sheridan's appearance before the grand jury, Brener replied: "We intend to do everything we possibly can."

Sheridan was subpenaed to appear before the grand jury shortly after Garrison charged him with attempting to bribe Perry Raymond Russo of Baton Rouge, who testified he witnessed Clay Shaw, David Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Shaw has been charged by Garrison with conspiring to kill the president.

THE CHARGE against Sheridan grew out of an hour-long documentary which was highly critical of Garrison's methods of handling the probe.

Meanwhile, Gordon Novel, another witness in the probe, has volunteered to go before the grand jury provided he be questioned under the influence of "truth serum," or hypnosis or while being administered a lie detector examination.

Novel took refuge in Ohio after Garrison charged him with conspiracy to commit simple burglary and being a material witness.

IN ANOTHER development yesterday, the attorney for Dean A. Andrews Jr. subpenaed two more defense witnesses for Andrews' perjury trial, scheduled tomorrow in Judge Frank J. Shea's court.

Subpenaed were David L. Chandler, 724 Gov. Nichols, a Life magazine reporter; Sam Depino, a reporter for WVUE-TV, and Bernard (Bubba) Pettingill, bail bondsman for the General Bail Bonding Service, 534 S. Broad.

In Baton Rouge yesterday, Russo claimed the late Ferrie also discussed the assassination of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and former Mexican President Adolpho Lopez Mateos.

On another front, the Terrebonne Parish Grand Jury will meet Aug. 23 to begin an investigation of charges by Garrison that Novel participated in a burglary of a Houma munitions bunker in 1961.

William Gurvich, former investigative aide to Garrison, has been subpenaed to appear before the jury.